

# MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday October 19, 2022 – 5:00 pm  
Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room

## Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Melanie Ames Zamojski, Rachel Stoler & Michael Nelson

**Staff:** Health Clerk – Anne E. H. Stuart

**Other:** Jennifer Hoffman – Greenfield Health Director & Interim Acting Health Director for Montague

**Guests:** Maureen McNamarra and Julian Mendoza – Greenfield Recorder

Melanie Ames Zamojski opened the meeting at 5:05 PM

### **September 21, 2022 Minutes**

- The Board of Health members reviewed the minutes.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the September 21, 2022 minutes as presented. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

*Zamojski – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Stoler - Aye*

### **September 26, 2022 Minutes**

- The Board of Health members reviewed the minutes.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the September 21, 2022 minutes as presented. Seconded by Melanie Ames Zamojski. **Motion passes.** Rachel Stoler - abstained*

*Zamojski – Aye, Nelson – Aye*

### **Directors Report:**

- Jennifer Hoffman gave an overview of the work done by Health Director, Daniel Wasiuk in September including:
  - Four septic inspections
  - Pool inspection
  - Emergency beaver permit
  - Body Art Inspection at Thorne Tail
- Jennifer followed up on October complaints that have come into the office:
  - 78 Third – suggestion of installation of a “ring doorbell/camera” to help monitor
  - 38 East Main Street
- Michael Nelson asked Jennifer to follow up on a property located at 68 Lake Pleasant Road. Anne Stuart will take down a complaint and property information for Jennifer.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to approve the Director’s report as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Zamojski – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Stoler- Aye*

### **Nurse Report:**

- There is still no medical director at this point to oversee all vaccines for the town. Jennifer will ask her medical director in Greenfield if they might be interested in overseeing Montague.
- Follow up is being done by Town Nurse, Cheryl Volpe for a potential Lyme case
- The Board of Health members reviewed the Sharps Disposal Plan as presented.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the Sharps Disposal Plan as presented. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

*Zamojski – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Stoler- Aye*

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the Nurse Report as presented. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

*Zamojski – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Stoler- Aye*

### **Animal/Barn Inspector Report:**

- The Board of Health members discussed Avian Bird Flu. It was confirmed that there are no cases in the area and that when Barn Inspections are done this is part of the inspection process that Kathleen Burek does.
- Barn Inspection letters went out for October 1, 2022 and Kathleen will start them the second half of the month.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the Nurse Report as presented. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

*Zamojski – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Stoler- Aye*

### **Old Business:**

- COVID
  - Jennifer stated that there were 14 cases last week
  - The trend is people when getting COVID-19, are staying sicker longer and it is accompanied by a fever.
  - The Wastewater testing shows that people are getting sick 2 weeks out from exposure.
  - All towns have been going into a decline but given a 2-year history it can be predicted that there will be a rise as folks gather around the holidays and then a decline in January.
  - The Collaborative met and designed a standard and “traffic light” icon in which to communicate with the public on where we are with COVID-19. The traffic light will appear in the Greenfield Recorder Saturday edition through January 2023.
  - Melanie will be present at the Selectboard meeting on Monday, October 24, 2022 to inform them of the “traffic light” icon.
- Great Falls Table
  - Melanie and the GCC students will be providing blood pressure checks under the tent for the afternoon of the festival.
  - Michael added they are looking for someone to take a lead of running the festival and rebrand it for the future.

- Statewide Opioid Settlement
  - Rachel shared that there has been a \$60,000 opioid settlement and will meet with Jennifer Hoffman to discuss uses for the money and will report back to the board.
  - Jennifer Hoffman mentioned that the social worker piece is huge and missing along with elder outreach in the community.
  - Public Health Excellence Grant for Services which additionally includes the towns of Shutesbury and Leverett.
- Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the funding and participation of Montague in the Public Health Excellence Grant program for shared services. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.**

*Zamojski – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Stoler- Aye*

- Flu Clinic
  - Montague Town Hall Annex Friday, November 18, 2022 3-5 PM.
  - Anne Stuart will put in a PSA with the Montague Reporter
- Monkey Pox
  - There are links on our Montague Board of Health page and handwashing is the key.

**New Business:**

- Update of Health Director Hiring Committee
  - The search committee met for the first time on October 11, 2022 and Steven Ellis, Town Administrator is the facilitator for the group, Michael Nelson is Chair and Christopher Boutwell is Vice Chair.
  - Next meeting is October 25, 2022

**Meeting adjourned: 6:09 PM**

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to adjourn the Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Zamojski – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Stoler - Aye*

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Documents:**

Minutes  
 Directors Report  
 Nurse Report  
 Animal/Barn Inspector Report  
 COVID-19 Traffic Light  
 MA Department Public Health Baseline Capacity Assessment  
 Biobot Analytics – Montague Clean Water Facility  
 Public Health Excellence Grant Program for Shared Services